

REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review of the patent application identified above. The Office Action dated July 7, 2003, has been received and its contents carefully reviewed. Claims 1-21 are presently pending in the application. Claims 1, 8, and 15 are independent claims. Claims 1, 5, 8, and 19 have been amended.

In the Office Action dated July 7, 2003, claims 5-8 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, 2nd¶ as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claims 1, 2, 4-9, and 11-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the related art shown in the application (hereinafter “Related Art”) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,025,899 to Fukunaga (hereinafter “Fukunaga”). Claim 14 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims. Claims 15-21 were allowed over the prior art of record. Applicant assumes that the Examiner intended that claim 19 actually would be allowed over the prior art of record when the 35 U.S.C. §112 rejection is overcome.

Claims 5 and 19 have been amended to address the 35 U.S.C. §112, 2nd¶ rejection. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that this rejection as applied to claims 5-9 and 19 be removed.

The rejection of claims 1-7 is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested. Claim 1 is allowable over the cited references in that this claim recites a combination of elements including, for example, “a cholesteric liquid crystal (CLC) color filter layer on the light absorption layer, the cholesteric liquid crystal color filter layer being multi-layered and each layer of the cholesteric liquid crystal color filter layer including sub-color filters for red, green and blue colors arranged in an alternating order, wherein each layer of the red sub-color filter reflects red light, each layer of the green sub-color filter reflects green light, and each layer of the blue sub-color filter reflects blue light.” None of the cited references including the Related Art and Fukunaga, singly or in combination, teaches or suggests at least this feature of the claimed invention. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 and claims 2-7,

which depend from claim 1, are allowable over the cited references.

The Related Art discloses a reflective liquid crystal display device using a single cholesteric liquid crystal color filter layer, but does not disclose a multi-layered cholesteric liquid crystal color filter. The Examiner seeks to cure this deficiency by combining the related art with Fukunaga. Fukunaga discloses a backlight liquid crystal display device using multi-layered cholesteric liquid crystal color filters. In Fukunaga, the multiple layers are selected such that in a color pixel region only the desired color passes through the color filter. For example, in an R pixel region, a B and G layer are used to reflect blue and green light while passing red light. (See Fukunaga FIG. 3 and col. 13, li. 60 to col. 14, li. 14.) This is contrary to the invention of claim 1 wherein each layer of the red sub-color filter reflects red light.

The rejection of claims 8-13 is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested. Claim 8 is allowable over the cited references in that this claim recites a combination of elements including, for example, “a single cholesteric liquid crystal color filter layer on the light absorption layer, the cholesteric liquid crystal color filter layer including sub-color filters for red, green and blue colors arranged in an alternating order, each of the sub-color filters being divided into a plurality of regions.” None of the cited references including the Related Art and Fukunaga, singly or in combination, teaches or suggests at least this feature of the claimed invention. In the Office Action the Examiner stated: “In claim 8, the term ‘regions’ is interpreted broadly as ‘layers’.” The amendment of claim 8 calls for a single cholesteric liquid crystal color filter layer including sub-color filters being divided into a plurality of regions. This is different from the cited prior art which discloses either a single or multi-layer cholesteric liquid crystal color filter layer with a single region (Related Art and Fukunaga respectively). Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 8 and claims 9-13, which depend from claim 1, are allowable over the cited references.

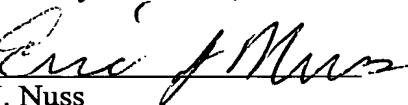
If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

Dated: October 7, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

By 
Eric J. Nuss

Registration No.: 40,106
MCKENNA LONG & ALDRIDGE LLP
1900 K Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20006
(202) 496-7500
Attorney for Applicant



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